# Exhibit 15

# ISTON & STRAWN LLP Electronic

I OO NORTH TRYON STREET, CHARLOTTE NC 28202-4018 TELEPHONE: 704-350-7700 FACSIMILE: 704-350-7800

35 W. WACKER DRIVE 312-558-5600

200 PARK AVENUE 1700 K STREET, N.W. 333 SOUTH GRAND AVENUE 101 CALIFORNIA STREET 43 RIJE 0J RHONE 25 AVENUE MARCELU 90 GRESHAM STREET 261 REVENUE NEW YORK, NY 1016 WASHINKTON, DC 20006 LOS ANGELES, CA 90071 SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94111 1204 GENZIA, SWITZERLAHD 75116 PARIS, FRANCISCO, UNITED KINGDOM ECZY 7NG 212:284-6700 20:2-282-5000 13-15-1700 415-23-15-1700 41-22-317-75-75 33-15-36-48-2-62 44-22-7105-0000

WRITER'S DIRECT DIAL (202) 282-5640 MBHARGAVA@WINSTON.COM

May 14, 2008

Parkland Health & Hospital Systems 5201 Harry Hines Blvd. Dallas, Texas 75235

> Subpoena in Meijer v. Abbott Laboratories, No. 07-5985 (N.D. Cal.) Re:

Dear To Whom It May Concern:

Please find enclosed a subpoena issued in a putative class action filed by Meijer, Inc., Rochester Drug Co-Operative, Inc., and Louisiana Wholesale Drug Company (on behalf of themselves and all others similarly situated) against Abbott Laboratories. The case is currently pending in the Northern District of California, Oakland Division. Enclosed for your convenience is the Consolidated Amended Complaint in the case.

The subpoena requires you to produce copies of the documents listed in Exhibit A by May 28, 2008. Please call me directly at the number above with any questions you may have.

Respectfully yours,

Michael Bhargava

AO 88 (Rev. 12/07) Subpoena in a Civil Case

Issued by the

# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS

MEIJER, INC. & MEIJER DISTRIBUTION, INC., on behalf of themselves and all others similarly situated,	Case No. C 07-5985 CW Pending in the District Court for the Northern District of California	
Plaintiffs, vs.	) ) SUBPOENA IN A CIVIL CASE ) )	
ABBOTT LABORATORIES,		
Defendant.	) ) )	
ROCHESTER DRUG CO-OPERATIVE, INC., on behalf of itself and all others similarly situated,	Case No. C 07-6010 CW Pending in the District Court for the Northern District of California	
Plaintiffs,	)	
vs.	) )	
ABBOTT LABORATORIES,	) )	
Defendant.	) ) )	
LOUISIANA WHOLESALE DRUG COMPANY, INC., on behalf of itself and all others similarly situated,	Case No. C 07-6118 CW Pending in the District Court for the Northern District of California	
Plaintiffs,	)	
vs.	) )	
ABBOTT LABORATORIES,	, )	
Defendant.	) )	

Parkland Health & Hospital Systems 5201 Harry Hines Blvd. Dallas, Texas 75235

☐ YOU ARE COMMANDED to appear in the United States District Court at the pla	ace, date, and time specified below to testify in the above case.
PLACE OF TESTIMONY	COURTROOM
	DATE AND TIME
	DATE AND TIME
☐ YOU ARE COMMANDED to appear at the place, date, and time specified below	to testify at the taking of a deposition in the above case.
PLACE OF DEPOSITION	DATE AND TIME
YOU ARE COMMANDED to produce and permit inspection and copying of the	he following documents or objects at the place, date, and time
specified below (list documents or objects): See EXHIBIT A.	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
PLACE	DATE AND TIME
Merrill Legal Solutions	May 28, 2008 at 9 a.m.
4144 North Central Expressway, Suite 850 Dallas, TX 75204	
Dunus, 111 / 020 /	
	*
☐ YOU ARE COMMANDED to produce and permit inspection of the following propredictions:  PREMISES	DATE AND TIME
PREMISES	DATE AND TIME
Any organization not a party to this suit that is subpoenaed for the taking	of a deposition shall designate one or more officers, directors,
or managing agents, or other persons who consent to testify on its behalf, and may sperson will testify. Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, 30(b)(6).	set form, for each person designated, the matters on which the
pototi win testify. Teastal rates of extra 11000ates, 50(0)(0).	
	l n
Issuing Officer Signature and Title (Indicate if attorney for Plaintiff or Defendant)	Date
Attorney for Defendant	May 14, 2008
Issuing Officer's Name, Address, and Phone Number:	
Stephanie S. McCallum, Winston & Strawn LLP	

35 W. Wacker Drive, Chicago, IL 60601-9703, (312) 558-7958

(See Rule 45, Federal Rules of Civil Procedure Parts C & D on Reverse)

PROOF OF SERVICE			
DATE	PLACE		
SERVED			
SERVED ON (PRINT NAME)	MANNER OF SERVICE		
SERVED BY (PRINT NAME)	TITLE		
	ARATION OF SERVER		
I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the U Proof of Service is true and correct.	Inited States of America that the foregoing information contained in the		

# Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 45 (c), (d), and (e), as amended on December 1, 2007:

#### (c) PROTECTING A PERSON SUBJECT TO A SUBPOENA.

(1) Avoiding Undue Burden or Expense; Sanctions. A party or attorney responsible for issuing and serving a subpoena must take reasonable steps to avoid imposing undue burden or expense on a person subject to the subpoena. The issuing court must enforce this duty and impose an appropriate sanction — which may include lost earnings and reasonable attorney's fees — on a party or attorney who fails to comply.

DATE

(2) Command to Produce Materials or Permit Inspection.

Executed on

- (A) Appearance Not Required. A person commanded to produce documents, electronically stored information, or tangible things, or to permit the inspection of premises, need not appear in person at the place of production or inspection unless also commanded to appear for a deposition, hearing, or trial.
- (B) Objections. A person commanded to produce documents or tangible things or to permit inspection may serve on the party or attorney designated in the subpoena a written objection to inspecting, copying, testing or sampling any or all of the materials or to inspecting the premises — or to producing electronically stored information in the form or forms requested.

The objection must be served before the earlier of the time specified for compliance or 14 days

after the subpoena is served. If an objection is made, the following rules apply:

(i) At any time, on notice to the commanded person, the serving party may move the issuing court for an order compelling production or inspection.

(ii) These acts may be required only as directed in the order, and the order must protect a person who is neither a party nor a party's officer from significant expense resulting from compliance.

(3) Quashing or Modifying a Subpoena.

- (A) When Required. On timely motion, the issuing court must quash or modify a subpoena that:
  - (i) fails to allow a reasonable time to comply;
- (ii) requires a person who is neither a party nor a party's officer to travel more than 100 miles from where that person resides, is employed, or regularly transacts business in person except that, subject to Rule 45(c)(3)(B)(iii), the person may be commanded to attend a trial by traveling from any such place within the state where the trial is held;
- (iii) requires disclosure of privileged or other protected matter, if no exception or waiver applies; or
  - (iv) subjects a person to undue burden.
- (B) When Permitted. To protect a person subject to or affected by a subpoena, the issuing court may, on motion, quash or modify the subpoena if it requires:
- (i) disclosing a trade secret or other confidential research, development, or commercial information;
- (ii) disclosing an unretained expert's opinion or information that does not describe specific occurrences in dispute and results from the expert's study that was not requested by a party; or
- (iii) a person who is neither a party nor a party's officer to incur substantial expense to travel more than 100 miles to attend trial.
- (C) Specifying Conditions as an Alternative. In the circumstances described in Rule 45(c)(3)(B), the court may, instead of quashing or modifying a subpoena, order

- appearance or production under specified conditions if the serving party:
- (i) shows a substantial need for the testimony or material that cannot be otherwise met without undue hardship; and
  - (ii) ensures that the subpoenaed person will be reasonably

#### compensated.

SIGNATURE OF SERVER

ADDRESS OF SERVER

#### (d) DUTIES IN RESPONDING TO A SUBPOENA.

- (1) Producing Documents or Electronically Stored Information. These procedures apply to producing documents or electronically stored information:
- (A) Documents. A person responding to a subpoena to produce documents must produce them as they are kept in the ordinary course of business or must organize and label them to correspond to the categories in the demand.
- (B) Form for Producing Electronically Stored Information Not Specified. If a subpoena does not specify a form for producing electronically stored information, the person responding must produce it in a form or forms in which it is ordinarily maintained or in a reasonably usable form or forms.
- (C) Electronically Stored Information Produced in Only One Form. The person responding need not produce the same electronically stored information in more than one form
- (D) Inaccessible Electronically Stored Information. The person responding need not provide discovery of electronically stored information from sources that the person identifies as not reasonably accessible because of undue burden or cost. On motion to compel discovery or for a protective order, the person responding must show that the information is not reasonably accessible because of undue burden or cost. If that showing is made, the court may nonetheless order discovery from such sources if the requesting party shows good cause, considering the limitations of Rule 26(b)(2)(C). The court may specify conditions for the discovery.
- (2) Claiming Privilege or Protection.
- (A) Information Withheld. A person withholding subpoenaed information under a claim that it is privileged or subject to protection as trial-preparation material must:
  - (i) expressly make the claim; and
  - (ii) describe the nature of the withheld documents,

communications, or tangible things in a manner that, without revealing information itself privileged or protected, will enable the parties to assess the claim.

(B) Information Produced. If information produced in response to a subpoena is subject to a claim of privilege or of protection as trial-preparation material, the person making the claim may notify any party that received the information of the claim and the basis for it. After being notified, a party must promptly return, sequester, or destroy he specified information and any copies it has; must not use or disclose the information until the claim is resolved; must take reasonable steps to retrieve the information if the party disclosed it before being notified; and may promptly present the information to the court under seal for a determination of the claim. The person who produced the information must preserve the information until the claim is resolved.

#### (e) CONTEMPT.

The issuing court may hold in contempt a person who, having been served, fails without adequate excuse to obey the subpoena. A nonparty's failure to obey must be excused if the subpoena purports to require the nonparty to attend or produce at a place outside the limits of Rule 45(c)(3)(A)(ii).

#### **EXHIBIT A**

## **GENERAL DEFINITIONS**

- 1. "Antiretroviral Drugs" or "ARV Drugs" shall include, but are not limited to, Non-Nucleoside Reverse Transcriptase Inhibitors, Nucleoside/Nucleotide Reverse Transcriptase Inhibitors, Protease Inhibitors, and Entry Inhibitors.
- 2. The "National Drug Code product identifier number" or "NDC number" shall mean the unique, three-segment number required under 21 U.S.C. § 360(e) as a universal product identifier for human drugs.
- 3. The terms "you" or "your" shall mean AmerisourceBergen Corporation and (a) any of its divisions, departments, subsidiaries, or other organizational or operational units; (b) all predecessor, successor, or assignee entities; (c) all member companies, corporations, partnerships, associations, or other business entities; and (d) present or former officers, directors, employees, agents, consultants, accountants, attorneys, or other representatives (in their individual or representative capacities).
- 4. The term "communication" shall mean or refer to all inquiries, discussions, conversations, negotiations, agreements, understandings, meetings, telephone conversations, e-mails, instant messages, letters, notes, telegrams, text messages, advertisements, or other forms of information exchanged, whether oral, electronic, or written.
- 5. The term "document" is defined to be synonymous in meaning and equal in scope to the usage of this term in Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 34(a), including, without limitation, electronic or computerized data compilations. A draft or non-identical copy is a separate document within the meaning of this term.
  - 6. The term "including" shall mean "including without limitation."
- 7. The terms "discussing," "identifying," "reflecting," "referring," "concerning," "relating to," or any derivation thereof shall mean, without limitation, consisting of, constituting, containing, mentioning, describing, summarizing, evidencing, listing, indicating, analyzing, explaining, supporting,

undermining, contradicting, concerning, pertaining to, prepared in connection with, used in preparation for, or being in any way legally, logically, or factually connected with the matter discussed.

- 8. All words and phrases shall be construed in accordance with normal custom and usage in the industries or field of commerce to which they apply.
- 9. Unless otherwise defined, all words and phrases used in this subpoena shall be accorded their usual meaning as defined by Webster's New Universal Unabridged Dictionary: Fully Revised and Updated (2003).
- 10. The terms "and" and "or" shall be construed either disjunctively or conjunctively as necessary to bring within the scope of the discovery request all responses that might otherwise be construed to be outside its scope.

### **INSTRUCTIONS**

- 1. Each request for production below seeks the production of each responsive document in its entirety, without abbreviation or redaction with all non-identical copies and drafts thereof, including any document appended to, included therewith, incorporated by or referred to in the document and all file folders in which any such document is contained.
- 2. If you at any time had possession or control of a document or thing requested herein and if such document or thing has been lost, destroyed, purged, or is not presently in your possession or control, identify the document, the date of its loss, destruction, purge or separation from your possession or control, and the circumstances surrounding its loss, destruction, purge or separation from your possession or control.
- 3. Should your refuse, on the grounds of attorney-client privilege, work product immunity, or any other applicable privilege or immunity, to produce any document or tangible thing, provide at the time of making said refusal a list or log of all such non-produced documents or things. With respect to any such document or thing that is being withheld, state the following: (1) the nature of the privilege or immunity being claimed; (2) the number of the request calling for its production; (3) the date of the

document; (3) the name of each person who signed and/or prepared the document; (4) the name of each addressee and person to whom the document or copies thereof were given or sent; (5) a description of the general subject matter of the document; (6) an identification of any document or other material transmitted with or attached to the document; and (7) the nature or character of the document or thing, as well as the number of pages of the document.

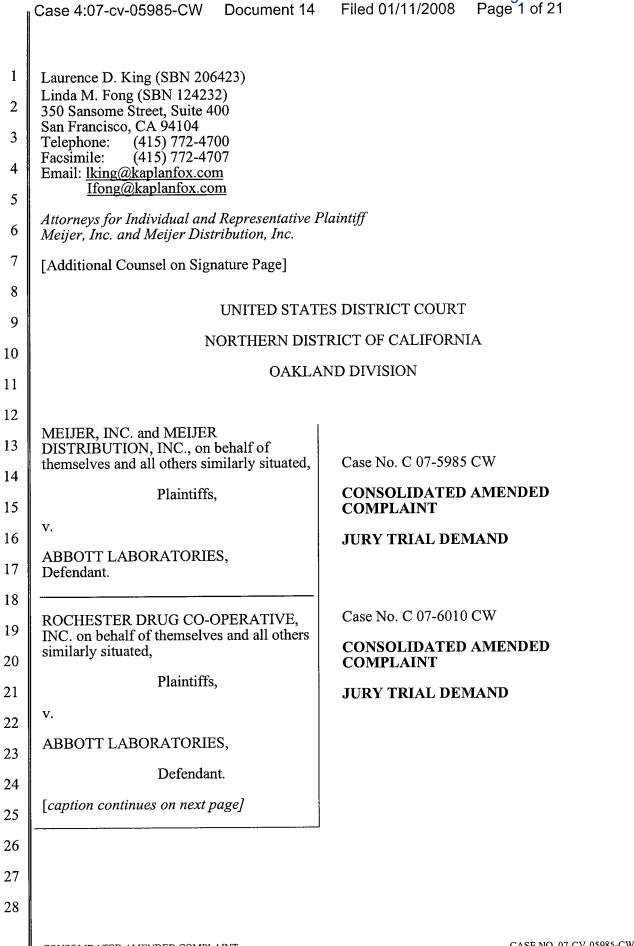
- 4. This subpoena seeks production of every version of the documents and things requested, including, but not limited to, copies of the documents with marginalia, additional attachments, additional handwritten or typed notes, indications of carbon copies, blind carbon copies, or distribution lists, and drafts and revisions of the document.
  - 5. Electronic data should be produced in comma delimited text files.
- 6. If any of the requested documents cannot be produced in full, produce them to the extent possible, specifying the reasons for your inability to produce the remainder.
- 7. Unless the request specifically states otherwise, references to the singular shall include the plural and vice versa; references to one gender shall include the other gender; references to the past include the present and vice versa; and disjunctive terms include the conjunctive and vice versa.
- 8. Unless otherwise indicated, the relevant time period for this subpoena is January 2002 until the present.

# **REQUESTS FOR PRODUCTION**

- 1. Financial documents showing your gross profit margins on your sales of Norvir®, Kaletra®, Reyataz®, and Lexiva®, by drug and by month for the calendar years 2002 through 2007.
- 2. All transaction-level sales and sales adjustment data relating to your sales of Norvir®, Kaletra®, Reyataz®, and Lexiva® for the calendar years 2002 through 2007, identifying for each sale and/or other transaction (including returns and error corrections) the following:
  - a. the date thereof;

- b. the identity of the particular product, the National Drug Code ("NDC") product identifier number, package sizes in extended units per package, and any and all other unique codes or other identifiers;
  - c. the number of packages sold, returned or otherwise affected by the transaction;
- d. any price or unit adjustments—whether monthly, quarterly or at any other periodicity—involving or relating to the sale or transaction;
  - e. the transaction price in dollars per package for each sale or other transaction;
  - f. the net extended amount in dollars for each transaction;
- g. the amount of the chargeback, rebate, discount, and/or consideration given and/or accrued, the contract or other bases upon which the chargeback, rebate, discount, and/or consideration is calculated, the date thereof, and any and all codes relating to transaction types; and
- h. the sales, or group of sales, upon which the chargeback, rebate, discount, and/or other consideration is based, including the identity of the particular product, the NDC number, package size in extended units per package, the number of packages sold, the date(s) of the sales, or group of sales, and the invoice amount in dollars for the sale(s) or group of sales.
- 3. All transactional-level sales and sales adjustment data relating to your purchases of Reyataz®, and Lexiva® for the calendar years 2002 through 2007, identifying for each sale and/or other transaction (including returns and error corrections) the following:
  - a. the date thereof;
  - b. the identify of the particular product, the NDC number, package sizes in extended units per package, and any and all other unique codes or other identifiers;
    - c. the number of packages sold, returned or otherwise affected by the transaction;
  - d. any price or unit adjustments—whether monthly, quarterly or at any other periodicity—involving or relating to the sale or transaction;

- e. the transaction price in dollars per package for each sale or other transaction;
- f. the net extended amount in dollars for each transaction;
- g. the amount of the chargeback, rebate, discount, and/or consideration given and/or accrued, the contract or other bases upon which the chargeback, rebate, discount, and/or consideration is calculated, the date thereof, and any and all codes relating to transaction types; and
- h. the sales, or group of sales, upon which the chargeback, rebate, discount, and/or other consideration is based, including the identity of the particular product, the NDC number, package size in extended units per package, the number of packages purchased, the date(s) of the sales, or group of sales, and the invoice amount in dollars for the sale(s) or group of sales.
- 4. All documents created during calendar years 2002 through 2007 that describe your pricing strategies or pricing formulas for ARV drugs, including, but not limited to, documents describing how you determine the price for particular ARV drugs, any analyses of wholesaler and distributor pricing for ARV drugs, and any agreements between you and your customers specifying pricing or pricing formulas.
- 5. All documents discussing the impact on your gross profit margins and/or your volume of sales of ARV drugs as a result of an increase in the acquisition costs of Norvir® and/or Kaletra®.



Filed 05/23/2008

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Case 4:07-cv-06118-CW Document 85-16

unlawful monopolization of the markets for Boosting and Boosted protease inhibitors, drugs used Abbott Laboratories ('Abbott' or 'Defendant') has unlawfully leveraged its monopoly position as the sole provider of Norvir, a protease inhibitor (PI) that is used to boost the therapeutic effects of other protease inhibitors, in order to disadvantage its competitors and restrict competition in the closely related Boosted Market. Abbott's anticompetitive scheme has resulted in a suppression of

competition in the Boosted Market and the Boosting Market and has caused Plaintiffs and other

direct purchasers to pay artificially inflated prices for the relevant drugs.

## **PARTIES**

- Plaintiffs Meijer, Inc. and Meijer Distribution, Inc. (collectively, 'Meijer') 1. are corporations organized under the laws of the State of Michigan, with their principal place of business located at 2929 Walker Avenue, NW, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49544. Meijer is the assignee of the claims of the Frank W. Kerr Co., which, during the class period, as defined below, purchased Norvir and Kaletra directly from Abbott and suffered antitrust injury as a result of Abbott's anticompetitive conduct alleged herein.
- Plaintiff Rochester Drug Cooperative, Inc. (RDC') is a pharmaceutical 2. wholesaler located at 50 Jet View Drive, Rochester, New York, 14624. During the relevant

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- 3. Plaintiff Louisiana Wholesale Drug Company, Inc. (LWD) is a pharmaceutical wholesaler and corporation organized under the laws of the State of Louisiana and is located at 20851-49 South Service Road, in Sunset, Louisiana 70584. During the relevant period, LWD purchased Norvir and Kaletra directly from Abbott, and suffered antitrust injury as a result of the anti-competitive conduct alleged herein.
- 4. Defendant Abbott is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Illinois and having its headquarters and principal place of business located at 100 Abbott Park Road, Abbott Park, Illinois. Abbott is engaged in the development, manufacture and sale of pharmaceutical and nutritional products. Abbott has facilities in at least 14 states, including at least 3 in this District.

# JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 5. This action arises under section 2 of the Sherman Act, 15 U.S.C. § 2, and sections 4 and 16 of the Clayton Act, 15 U.S.C. §§ 15(a) and 26. The Court has subject-matter jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 1331 and 1337(a).
- 6. Venue is proper in this Court pursuant to section 12 of the Clayton Act, 15 U.S.C. § 22, and Local Rules of the United States District Court for the Northern District of California 3-2 because Abbott is an inhabitant of this District or is found or transacts business there and because a substantial part of the events giving rise to Plaintiff's claims occurred in this District. Venue is also proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391.
- 7. Intradistrict assignment is proper in the San Francisco/Oakland Division, pursuant to L.R. 3-2(c) & (d), because a substantial part of the events which give rise to the claim occurred in Alameda, Contra Costa, Del Norte, Humboldt, Lake, Marin, Mendocino, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo and Sonoma counties.

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# TRADE AND COMMERCE

8. The pharmaceutical products at issue in this case are sold in interstate commerce, and the unlawful activities alleged in this Complaint have occurred in, and have had a substantial effect upon, interstate commerce.

#### FACTUAL BACKGROUND

- 9. PIs are considered the most powerful treatment in the medical battle against HIV and the disorders it causes, including acquired immune deficiency syndrome ('AIDS'). These drugs work by blocking the action of protease, an enzyme needed for HIV to reproduce and infect other cells.
- 10. Although PIs present an effective treatment, they have several impediments, including: pill burden, dietary requirements, and severe side effects. Each PI presents different degrees of impediment and efficacy. In addition, patients develop resistance to certain PIs-asignificant challenge to the treatment of HIV-as the disease progresses
- 11. There are several PIs currently on the market, including Norvir (a Boosting drug), manufactured by Abbott and introduced in 1996, and Kaletra, also manufactured by Abbott and introduced in 2000. Kaletra is a combination drug consisting of Norvir and another Abbott PI, whose chemical or generic name is lopinavir (a Boosted drug). As explained below, while Norvir was introduced as a stand-alone treatment, its principal use today is to boost the therapeutic effects (and reduced the required dosage) of other PIs.
- 12. Abbott developed Norvir with the assistance of a National Institute of Health grant and spent only about \$15 million of its own funds on pre-approval clinical trials for the drug. By the end of 2001, Norvir had generated cumulative sales for Abbott of more than \$1 billion.
- 13. After Norvir's release, it was discovered that, when used in small quantities with another PI, Norvir would boost the anti-viral effects of the other PI. Not only did a small dose of Norvir make other PIs more effective and decrease side effects associated with high doses, but it also slowed down the rate at which HIV developed resistance to the effects of PIs. Norvir is the only PI known to have such properties and, as a result, for such boosting purposes,

- 14. Recent research has also shown significant benefits from the use of Boosted-PI regimens, especially for patients who experience failure of treatment regimens combining PIs with other anti-HIV drugs. Such treatment failures are marked by the emergence of drug-resistant mutations that limit the benefits of other drugs in the future, because of cross-resistance among HIV medications.
- manufacturers from creating and selling Boosted-PIs that rely on Norvir's use. Indeed, Abbott has disclaimed such a use from the exclusionary scope of its patent rights. *See In Re Abbott Laboratories Norvir Antitrust Litigation*, 442 F. Supp.2d 800, 807-810 (N.D. Cal. 2007). Abbott profited by licensing competitors the right to market PIs to be co-administered with Norvir. Abbott licensed both explicitly and implicitly competitors the right to market PIs to be co-administered with Norvir. Based on Abbott's course of conduct, Abbott knowingly created the conditions for Norvir to become the *de facto* standard boosting agent.
- 16. As noted above, Abbott also markets Kaletra, which consists of Norvir and another Abbott PI, lopinavir, combined in a single pill, *i.e.*, Kaletra is lopinavir boosted by Norvir. Although effective and widely used, Kaletra has significant side effects, including hyperlipidemia, which renders patients more vulnerable to heart attacks and strokes.
- 17. Thus, in the Boosting Market," Norvir is the only product available, while in the Boosted Market," Kaletra competes with other PIs, each of which is prescribed, dispensed and taken in conjunction with Norvir. This creates a situation in which the same firm participates in two closely related markets, with the product sold in one of the two markets being an input or component of the product sold in the other market. If such a firm lacks competition in the market for sales of the input or component product, it may be able to use its monopoly position in that

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market to disadvantage its competitors in the related market and monopolize or attempt to monopolize the related market. That is exactly what Abbott has done here.

Abbott's anticompetitive conduct involves both of these markets. First, 18. Abbott has leveraged its monopoly position (100% dominance) in the Boosting Market to impede rivals to Abbott's Kaletra product in the Boosted Market. And, second, by improperly impeding the development of potential rivals to Norvir (and/or by delaying the development of technologies that would have permitted Norvir to be used as a PI-Boosting drug in substantially lesser amounts far earlier (and thus effectively brought lower prices to purchasers earlier) in the Boosting Market, Abbott artificially maintained and/or enhanced and exploited Norvir's monopoly position in the Boosting Market.

## ABBOTT'S ANTICOMPETITIVE CONDUCT

- Prescriptions for Kaletra rose steadily from its introduction in September 19. 2000 through mid-2003, at which point Kaletra enjoyed over three-quarters of the Boosted Market. However, Kaletra's dominance of the Boosted Market was about to be threatened.
- 20. On information and belief, in 2001 (or earlier), Abbott came to realize that Kaletra's domination of the Boosted Market would soon be challenged by new Boosted-PIs that were then expected to be coming to market imminently.
- On information and belief, during 2002 (or earlier), Abbott became 21. increasingly concerned about the competitive threat to Kaletra posed by soon-to-be-introduced Boosted-PIs, and began to formulate plans to thwart the impact on Kaletra of those new products. Abbott considered various strategies for leveraging its Norvir dominance to impair Kaletra's rivals, including, e.g.: (a) removing Norvir from the market as a stand-along product, and (b) raising Norvir's price substantially in order to make it prohibitively expensive for patients to use rivals' Boosted-PI products.
- In June 2003, Bristol-Myers Squibb Co. introduced Reyataz, a PI designed 22. to be boosted by Norvir. In October 2003, GlaxoSmithKline introduced Lexiva, another PI designed to be boosted by Norvir. Studies showed that, when boosted with Norvir, the new PIs were as effective as Kaletra, and were more convenient. On information and belief this caused

make steady inroads into Kaletra's share of the Boosted Market.

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concern at Abbott that Kaletra's market share would be threatened by these new Boosted-PI

Lexiva and acted quickly to suppress it. Overnight, on December 3, 2003, as part of the

competitors. And, in fact, Kaletra's share of the Boosted Market began to decline.

Beginning in the second half of 2003, both Reyataz and Lexiva began to

Abbott was well aware of the competitive threat posed by Reyataz and

Faced with the prospect of new competitors to Abbott's Boosted-PI, Kaletra-

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CONSOLIDATED AMENDED COMPLAINT

- 7 -

CASE NO. 07-CV-05985-CW

monopolization scheme alleged herein, Abbott raised the wholesale price of Norvir by approximately 400%, from \$205.74 to \$1,028.71 for a 120-count bottle of 100 mg capsules. However, Abbott did not raise the price of Kaletra, which incorporates Norvir. In effect, Abbott raised the price of Norvir only when it is used to boost a non-Abbott PI. By instituting this enormous price hike, Abbott drastically increased the cost of regimens using Norvir to boost competing PIs. The annual cost of Norvir needed in such a regimen increased by \$6,258 per year for PIs such as Lexiva requiring twice-daily dose of Norvir. For Aptivus (tipranavir), a new PI marketed by Boehringer Ingelheim, the optimal Norvir boosting dose increased by more than \$12,000 per year.

i.e., two new PIs from GSK (Lexiva) and BMS (Reyataz)—Albott's executive declined to engage in legal and procompetitive, but potentially ineffective, approaches to defending against a loss of market share. Instead, its executives formulated an anticompetitive monopolization scheme using Abbott's control of the Boosting Market (Norvir) as leverage to impede rivals of Kaletra in the Boosted Market, and thereby artificially insulate Kaletra from competition. Abbott executives were well-aware that Abbott had facilitated the use of Norvir as a boosting drug and caused its competitors to rely on the availability of Norvir—through Abbott's past course of conduct and formally through licensing its competitors to promote their PIs with Norvir. Abbott executives realized that if Abbott could make Norvir unavailable or less desirable when paired with its competitors PIs—by actually pulling it from the market or by manipulating its price—then its competitors products in the Boosted Market, which by that time almost always relied on Norvir

their Boosted-PIs with ritonovir in a single pill or capsule.

competitive threat to Kaletra's market share.

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As reported in the Wall Street Journal, internal Abbott documents reveal, among other things, that: (a) Abbott understood the illegal nature of the price-increase scheme and contemplated other strategies, like ceasing sales of Norvir, to minimize any federal investigations regarding price increases in the US; (b) Abbott understood the adverse consequences of the scheme, including that it would tarnish the reputation of Abbott's CEO, [p]osition [Abbott] as [a] big, bad, greedy pharmaceutical company; [f]uel[] perception[s] regarding lack of Abbott commitment to HIV; and create a [b]acklash from [the] advocacy community, legislators, [and] physicians; and (c) Abbott floated pretextual rationales for the price increase but worried about its [e]xposure on price if forced to open [its] books. Furthermore, removing Norvir from the U.S. market entirely would potentially expose Abbott to the significant financial risk that the NIH would use its march-in rights under the Bayh-Dole Act to grant licenses to numerous competitors to allow rivals to manufacture ritonovir and/or to co-formulate

for boosting due to Abbott's prior conduct, would be impaired, and could not become a significant

- Wall Street Journal, one Abbott executive explained Abbott's concern in the following manner:
  Abbott could not "continue to trade a prescription of Kaletra for a prescription of Norvir at 100 mg." Rather than rely on any competitive advantage in the medicinal characteristics of Kaletra, or even on lowering Kaletra's price so that it was more attractive to patients, this executive outlined alternative anticompetitive plans that had been discussed among Abbott management and warned other senior Abbott employees not to be "stunned by the outcome of the thought process."
- 28. But the emails are stunning. First, they outlined two potential scenarios for increasing the price of Norvir in an effort artificially to decrease demand for its competitors' PIs. In both scenarios, they suggested leaving the price of Kaletra unchanged, thus giving Abbott a huge price advantage for PIs boosted by Norvir. They outlined a 'rationale' for the proposed Norvir price increase, suggesting that Abbott mislead the public into believing that 'st is no longer

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feasible for Abbott to provide a production line of Norvir capsules at the current price." The emails, however, frankly admit the "weakness" of this "rational elts falsity.

- Even more cynically, the Abbott emails suggested an alternative approach 29. to the price increase: withdraw Norvir capsules from the market entirely, leaving HIV patients only with a liquid form of Norvir that Abbott's own executives admit 'taste[s] like someone else's vomit." Other materials reveal that Abbott planned to make up a justification for this withdrawal. Executives considered misleading the public into believing that Abbott was diverting the capsules for humanitarian efforts in "the developing world (i.e. Africa)."
- An Abbott slide presentation created around the time of these emails 30. further illustrates the anticompetitive and illegitimate motives behind Abbott's price hike. The presentation reveals, for example, that Abbott sought to '[p]osition Kaletra as a more economical option for boosted ARV [anti-retroviral] therapy." Abbott acknowledged the illegitimacy of its plan, but Abbott still found it easier to mislead the public regarding an anticompetitive price increase than to try to explain a complete withdrawal of Norvir capsules from the market.
- Abbott further attempted to manage the fallout from its Norvir price 31. increase by publishing misleading comparisons of PI prices. In promotional and informational materials about Norvir after the price increase, Abbott represented that Norvir was the lowestpriced PI on the market.
- The Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS') responded with a 32. Warning Letter to Abbott about such materials, calling Abbott's price comparison chart'false or misleading in violation of section 502(a) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (Act) (21 U.S.C. 352(a))." Specifically, DHHS stated that the price chart was misleading because it compared a 'subtherapeutic dose of Norvir (100 mg once daily) to the labeled dosing regimens of other antiretroviral agents' and it'implies that Norvir may be used other than in combination therapy, when it is not labeled for such use." Abbott did not contest the FDA letter, choosing instead to send a letter to healthcare providers retracting and "clarifying" its false statements.
- On information and belief, internal Abbott documents state Abbott's intentions: the huge price increase for the PI-Boosting drug, Norvir, could be effectively

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leveraged to insulate Kaletra from competition in the separate Boosted Market. Abbott's December 3, 2003 price increase was an attempt to leverage its monopoly position in the Boosting Market in order to disadvantage competitors and maintain its dominant position in the

Boosted Market. The attempt succeeded.

- At the very same time that Abbott was planning to limit Norvir's 34. availability (by either physically removing it from the market or raising its price to make it effectively unavailable). Abbott was approaching BMS, GSK, and other actual and potential Boosted-PI competitors to induce them to take licenses from Abbott for the right to label and market their PIs to be boosted by, or co-administered with, Norvir. In 2001, Abbott approached GSK to demand that GSK secure a license from Abbott to allow GSK to promote GSK's existing PIs, as well as PIs it had under development, with Norvir. Abbott and GSK continued to negotiate over such a license during 2001 and 2002 until GSK ultimately acquiesced to this demand, procuring a license from Abbott in December 2002. Under the license, GSK paid substantial sums of money and other valuable consideration in exchange for the right to promote the use and administration of its PIs with Norvir.
- Abbott negotiated the Norvir licenses with GSK and other competitors 35. during 2001 and 2002 at the very same time that it was secretly considering limiting Norvir's availability. Abbott never disclosed to GSK and other licensees and potential licensees that Abbott might either remove Norvir from the market or raise its price to make it financially unavailable to many patients. When GSK entered into the Norvir license with Abbott in December 2002, GSK relied on Abbott's good faith not to materially deviate from its prior course of conduct with regard to selling and pricing Norvir. Up until that point, Abbott had never increased Norvir's price by more than 4% per year. The largest price increase in HIV therapies had been a 10.4% increase for the price for Combivir and Trizivir in January 2002. Abbott's overnight 400% price increase for Norvir was unprecedented and especially when considering Abbott's prior conduct of encouraging and facilitating licensing of Norvir for use in the Boosted Market totally unexpected.

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- On information and belief, in reliance on the expectation that Abbott would 36. act in good-faith, and because Abbott concealed its strategy to reduce Norvir's availability and/or dramatically raise its prices, GSK and other PI manufacturers materially delayed developing, testing, and/or launching other potential Boosted-PIs that could be effective with substantially less of Norvir (and thus be less susceptible to impairment by a Norvir price increase) or could be used another PI-Boosting drug entirely, i.e., not Norvir. As a result of Abbott's conduct, no currently available PI has been approved for co-administration with any other PI-Boosting drug besides Norvir.
- Had GSK and other competitors known that Abbott was planning to 37. substantially reduce Norvir's availability (either by raising its prices to prohibitive levels or pulling it from the market entirely), GSK and other competitors would not have delayed or postponed efforts to develop alternative Boosted-PI drugs that did not depend upon using 200 mg of the Norvir product as a PI-Boosting drug. For example, due to Abbott's misconduct as described above, GSK was delayed in receiving FDA labeling approval for the use of its Boosted-PI Lexiva with only 100 mg of Norvir per day, rather than 200 mg of Norvir per day to achieve the same clinical results. Lexvia entered the market, belatedly, in October 2007. A result of this new FDA approval for use of Lexiva with only 100 mg of Norvir is that the cost to purchasers of boosting Lexiva with Norvir dropped by one-half. Because GSK (and potentially others) delayed development, testing and FDA-approval of Boosted-PIs that would be effective with lower amounts of Norvir: (a) purchasers in the Boosted Market paid more for Norvir than they otherwise would have; and (b) GSK's rival Boosted-PI products were rendered more expensive (and therefore less of a competitive threat to Kaletra).
- 38. Abbott's exclusionary conduct has unlawfully caused the Boosted Market to standardize on Norvir for boosting purposes and has significantly retarded the advent of alternatives to Norvir in the United States, thereby enabling Abbott to sell Norvir at artificially inflated prices. But for Abbott's illegal conduct, multiple other avenues for providing, or obviating the need for, boosting functionality would have been invested in, pursued, resulting in a much lower demand, and therefore profitably sustainable price, for Norvir.

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Abbott's leveraging scheme effectively halted the decline in market share of 39. Kaletra. By 2006, Kaletra's share of the Boosted Market had risen to approximately the same dominant share it had held prior to the introduction of Reyataz. This change was due to the competitive disadvantage imposed on non-Abbott PIs by the December 2003 price increase on Norvir.

- By leveraging its monopoly power in the Boosting Market to impair rivals 40. in the Boosted Market, Abbott's 400% Norvir price increase not only impeded competition by inflating the costs of using rivals' Boosted-PI products, but also caused its Boosted-PI competitors to forego responding to Abbott's conduct by lowering price. After December 2003, Abbott's Boosted-PI competitors knew that any price reductions they took could immediately be undercut by further Norvir price *increases*. In other words, by leveraging its monopoly in the Boosting Market, Abbott could react to price cuts by its Boosted-PI rivals not with price reductions of its own on its Boosted-PI product as one would expect in a competitive market, but rather with price increases on a different product. In this way, Abbott's Boosted-PI rivals had little incentive to get into a competitive battle with Abbott in the Boosted Market given that Abbott controlled the Boosting Market. By undermining competitors incentives to price compete, Abbott's conduct reduced price competition as a whole in the Boosted Market. Consequently, the December 2003 Norvir price increase not only raised the costs of using rivals' products, but also reduced the overall degree of price competition in the Boosted Market, thereby further reducing competitive pressure on Abbott to reduce Kaletra's prices.
- The following allegations are sufficient, but not necessary, to state a claim. 41. On information and belief: (a) if the penalty a purchaser would pay on the required dosage of Norvir for buying a Boosted-PI from a supplier other than Abbott were subtracted from the imputed price of the Boosted-PI portion of Kaletra, then the resulting price would be below Abbott's average variable costs relating to the Boosted-PI portion of Kaletra; and (b) if Abbott had to pay its own market price for the ritonavir/Norvir that goes into Kaletra, Abbott's selling Kaletra at its current market price would not be profitable.

42. As a direct and proximate result of Abbott's unlawful conduct, Plaintiffs and other similarly situated direct purchasers have been deprived of the benefit of free and open competition in both the Boosting and Boosted Markets and have been injured in their busineses and properties by paying more for the relevant Abbott drugs than they would have in the absence of Abbott's unlawful, anticompetitive conduct.

#### RELEVANT MARKETS

- 43. There are two product markets relevant to Plaintiffs' antitrust claims: the Boosting Market, which consists of Norvir alone, and the Boosted Market, which consists of Kaletra and a number of non-Abbott PIs, each of which is prescribed, dispensed and used in conjunction with Norvir. The relevant geographic market is the United States. With respect to both product markets, a firm that was the only seller of such products in the United States would have the ability to profitably sell those products at a price substantially above the competitive level without losing significant sales.
- 44. At all relevant times, Abbott has had a 100% share of the Boosting Market and has had a dominant share of the Boosted Market. At all relevant times, Abbott possessed monopoly power the ability to profitably raise price significantly above competitive level without losing significant sales in both relevant markets.
- 45. There are barriers to entry in both the Boosted and Boosting Markets. The products in these markets require millions of dollars and years to design, develop, and distribute. Compounding these barriers to entry, both markets require government approvals to enter and are may be covered by patents and other forms of intellectual property. Thus, competitors or potential market entrants lack the capacity to increase output in the short run.
- 46. The unlawful actions alleged above were taken for the purpose of maintaining Abbott's dominant share of the Boosted Market.

# **CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS**

47. Plaintiffs bring this action on their own behalf and under Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(a) & (b)(3), as representatives of a class (the 'Class') defined as follows:

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- - Ouestions of law and fact common to the Class include: 54.
- whether the Defendant intentionally and unlawfully impaired or impeded competitors the Boosting and/or Boosted Markets;
- whether Abbott unlawfully attempted to monopolize the Boosting b. and/or Boosted Market during the Class Period;
- whether Abbott engaged in anticompetitive conduct in order to c. leverage its monopoly in the Boosting Market to obtain, maintain, or extend monopoly power in the Boosted Market;

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mechanism, including providing injured persons or entities with a method for obtaining redress for claims that might not be practicable for them to pursue individually, substantially outweigh any difficulties that may arise in management of this class action.

Plaintiffs know of no difficulty to be encountered in the maintenance of 56. this action as a class action.

# FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION Monopolization of the Boosted Market (15 U.S.C. § 2)

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- 57. Plaintiff incorporates by reference the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 56 above.
- 58. At all relevant times, Abbott has had monopoly power in both the Boosting Market and the Boosted Market.
- 59. Abbott has willfully maintained its monopoly power in the Boosted Market through exclusionary and anticompetitive means. As described in more detail above, Abbott induced competitors in the Boosted Market to rely upon Norvir, then overnight raised the price of Norvir by approximately 400% in December 2003, and maintained that inflated price to the present day. Norvir is sold at a much lower price when used as one component of Abbott's own Boosted-PI, Kaletra. By engaging in this conduct, and instituting such a price increase, Abbott has improperly leveraged its monopoly position in the Boosting Market to gain an artificial competitive advantage and unfairly impede and impair its competitors in the Boosted Market. The purpose and effect of Abbott's conduct have been to suppress rather than promote competition on the merits.
  - 60. There is no procompetitive justification for Abbott's conduct.
- 61. Plaintiffs have been injured in their businesses and properties by reason of Abbott's unlawful monopolization. Plaintiffs' injuries consist of paying higher prices to purchase the relevant products than they would have paid absent Abbott's conduct. Plaintiffs' injuries are of the type the antitrust laws were designed to prevent and flow from that which makes Abbott's conduct unlawful.

# SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION Attempt to Monopolize the Boosted Market (15 U.S.C. § 2)

- 62. Plaintiffs incorporates by reference the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 61 above.
- 63. At all relevant times, Abbott has had monopoly power in the Boosting Market and, in the alternative, a dangerous probability of achieving monopoly power in the Boosted Market.

64. Abbott has attempted to monopolize the Boosted Market through			
exclusionary and anticompetitive means. As described in more detail above, Abbott induced			
competitors in the Boosted Market to rely upon Norvir, then overnight raised the price of Norvir			
by approximately 400% in December 2003, and maintained that inflated price to the present day.			
Norvir is sold at a much lower price when used as one component of Abbott's own Boosted-PI,			
Kaletra. By engaging in this conduct, and instituting such a price increase, Abbott has improperly			
leveraged its monopoly position in the Boosting Market to gain an artificial competitive			
advantage and unfairly impede and impair its competitors in the Boosted Market. The purpose			
and effect of Abbott's conduct have been to suppress rather than promote competition on the			
merits.			

- 65. At all relevant times, Abbott has had the specific intent to monopolize the Boosted Market.
  - 66. There is no procompetitive justification for Abbott's conduct.
- 67. Plaintiffs have been injured in their businesses and properties by reason of Abbott's unlawful attempt to monopolize. Plaintiffs' injuries consist of paying higher prices to purchase the relevant products than they would have paid absent Abbott's conduct. Plaintiffs' injuries are of the type the antitrust laws were designed to prevent and flow from that which makes Abbott's conduct unlawful.

# THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION Monopolization of the Boosting Market (15 U.S.C. § 2)

68. Plaintiff incorporates by reference the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 67 above.

69. Abbott has willfully enhanced and maintained its monopoly power in the Boosting Market through exclusionary and anticompetitive means. As described in more detail above, Abbott deceptively induced rivals to forego developmental alternatives and instead standardize around the use of Norvir for boosting purposes. Given that competitors were induced to lock in to using Norvir, Abbott exercised its monopoly power in the Boosting Market by raising the price of Norvir approximately 400% in December 2003. Abbott has maintained that

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1	price to the present day. The purpose and effect of Abbott's conduct has been to suppress rather			
2	than promote competition on the merits.			
3	70. There is no pro competitive justification for Abbott's conduct.			
4	71. Plaintiffs and the Class have been injured in their businesses and properties			
5	by reason of Abbott's unlawful monopolization. Plaintiffs' injuries consist of paying higher prices			
6	to purchase the relevant products than they would have paid absent Abbott's conduct. These			
7	injuries to Plaintiffs' businesses and properties are of the type the antitrust laws were designed to			
8	prevent and flow from that which makes Abbott's conduct unlawful.			
9	PETITION FOR RELIEF			
10	WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs petition that:			
11	a. The Court determine that this action may be maintained as a class			
12	action pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 23, that Plaintiffs be appointed class representatives, and that			
13	Plaintiffs' counsel be appointed as counsel for the Class;			
14	b. The conduct alleged herein be declared, adjudged and/or decreed to			
15	be unlawful under Section 2 of the Sherman Act, 15 U.S.C. § 2;			
16	c. Plaintiffs and the Class recover their overcharge damages, trebled,			
17	and the costs of the suit, including reasonable attorneys' fees as provided by law; and			
18	d. Plaintiffs and the Class be granted such other, further, and different			
19	relief as the nature of the case may require or as may be determined to be just, equitable and			
20	proper by this Court.			
21	JURY TRIAL DEMAND			
22	Plaintiffs demand a trial by jury of all issues so triable.			
23	Dated: January 11, 2008			
24	KAPLAN FOX & KILSHEIMER LLP			
25	By: /s/ Laurence D. King			
26	Laurence D. King (SBN 206423)			
<ul><li>27</li><li>28</li></ul>	Linda M. Fong (SBN 124232) 350 Sansome Street, Suite 400 San Francisco, CA 94104 Telephone: (415) 772-4700			
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1	Facsimile: (415) 772-4707			
2	Email: <u>lking@kaplanfox.com</u> <u>Ifong@kaplanfox.com</u>			
3	Robert N. Kaplan, Admitted <i>Pro Hac Vice</i> Linda P. Nussbaum, Admitted <i>Pro Hac Vice</i>			
4	850 Third Avenue, 14th Floor New York, NY 10022			
5	Telephone: (212) 687-1980 Facsimile: (212) 687-7714			
6	Email: <u>rkaplan@kaplanfox.com</u> <u>Inussbaum@kaplanfox.com</u>			
7		garenson@kaplanfox,com		
8	Lead Counsel for Meijer, Inc. and Meijer Distribution, Inc.			
9		DEDCED 9 MONITACIJE	D.C.	
10 11	BERGER & MONTAGUE, P.C.  Daniel Berger  danberger@bm.net			
12		Eric L. Cramer, Admitted Precramer@bm.net	ro Hac Vice	
13		David F. Sorensen dsorensen@bm.net		
14		1622 Locust Street Philadelphia, PA 19103		
15		Telephone: (215) 875-306 Facsimile: (215) 875-466		
16		Lead Counsel for Rochester	Drug Cooperative, Inc.	
17		GARWIN GERSTEIN & FI	SHED IID	
18		Bruce E. Gerstein, <i>Pro Hac</i> Noah H. Silverman, <i>Pro Hac</i>	Vice	
19		1501 Broadway, Suite 1416 New York, New York 10036		
20		Tel: (212) 398-0055 Fax: (212) 764-6620	-	
21		E mail: <u>bgerstein@garwing</u> <u>nsilverman@garwin</u>		
22		Lead Counsel for Louisiana	Wholesale Drug Co.,	
23		Inc.		
24		Additional Counsel for Plai	intiffs:	
25 26	ODOM & DES ROCHES, LLP John Gregory Odom, <i>Pro Hac Vice</i>			
27		Stuart E. Des Roches, <i>Pro Ha</i> John Alden Meade, <i>Pro Ha</i>	Tac Vice	
28		Suite 2020, Poydras Center 650 Poydras Street		
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1 2 3		New Orleans, LA 70130 Tel: (504) 522-0077 Fax: (504) 522-0078 E mail: jodom@odrlaw.com stuart@odrlaw.com	
4		PERCY SMITH & FOOTE,	
5		David P. Smith, <i>Pro Hace Vie</i> W. Ross Foote, <i>Pro Hace Vie</i>	
6		720 Murray Street P.O. Box 1632	
7		Alexandria, LA 71309 Tel: (318) 445-4480	
8		Fax: (318) 487-1741 E mail: dpsmith@psfllp.com rfoot@psfllp.com	1
9		KOZYAK TROPIN & THRO	OCK MORTON
10		Tucker Ronzetti, <i>Pro Hac Vi</i> Adam Moskowitz, <i>Pro Hac V</i>	ce
11		2800 Wachovia Financial Ce 200 South Biscayne Bouleva	nter
12		Miami, Florida 33131-2335 Telephone: (305) 372-1800	
13		Telecopier: (305) 372-3508	
14		AUBERTINE DRAPER ROS Andrew E. Aubertine, Pro Ho	
15		aa@adr-portland.com 1211 SW Sixth Avenue	
16		Portland, Oregon 97204 Telephone: (503) 221-457	70
17		Facsimile: (503) 221-459	
18		LAW OFFICES OF JOSHUA Joshua P. Davis (State Bar N	
19		davisj@usfca.edu 437A Valley Street	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
20		San Francisco, CA 94131 Telephone: (415) 422-622	.3
21		VANEK, VICKERS & MAS	
22		Joseph M. Vanek, Admitted David P. Germaine, Admitted	Pro Hac Vice
23		111 South Wacker Drive, Sur Chicago, IL 60606	
24		Telephone: (312) 224-150 Facsimile: (312) 224-151	
25		Email: jvanek@vaneklaw.co	<u>om</u>
26		SPERLING & SLATER	
27		Paul E. Slater, Admitted <i>Pro</i> 55 West Monroe Street, Suite	
28		Chicago, Illinois 60603	
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